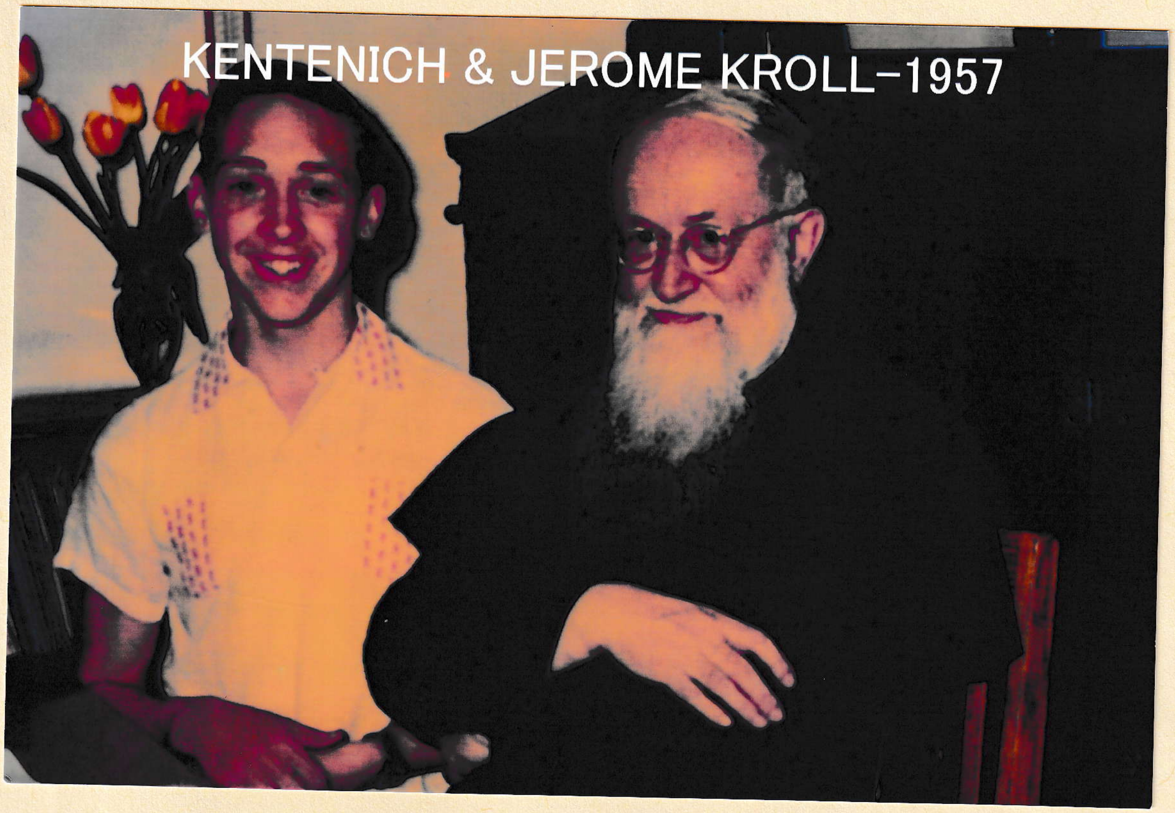

KENTENICH & JEROME KROLL–1957

Father Joseph Kentenich was Jerome E. Kroll
Spiritual Director, confessor, and mentor.

Copyright TX 1-158-755 2-11-2004

Certificate of Registration

This Certificate issued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with title 17, United States Code, attests that registration has been made for the work identified below. The information on this certificate has been made a part of the Copyright Office records.

Marybeth Peters

Register of Copyrights, United States of America

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For a Literary Work

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Joseph Kentenich (Priest and Founder) Mentoring Relationship With Jerome Kroll (1956-1963)

PREVIOUS OR ALTERNATIVE TITLES ▼
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a **NAME OF AUTHOR ▼** Jerome E Kroll

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Jerome E Kroll
PO BOX 57165
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Page 1 of 2 pages

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APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 17.748
This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

April 24, 1995

Reverend Joseph N. Perry
Judicial Vicar
Archdiocese of Milwaukee
P. O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207-0912

Dear Father Perry:

I acknowledge your kind letter of April 17, 1995 with enclosure to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints regarding **Kroll vs. Schoenstatt Sec. Inst.** and check for $75.00 which I appreciate.

Rest assured that the correspondence will be duly forwarded to the Vatican.

With cordial regards and very best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+A Cacciavillan
Apostolic Pro-Nuncio

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE
P.O. BOX 07912
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912
(414) 769-3300

METROPOLITAN TRIBUNAL

No. DP 78/94
KINDLY REFER TO THIS NUMBER IN YOUR REPLY

IN CAUSA J.E. Kroll vs
Schoenstatt Sec. Inst.

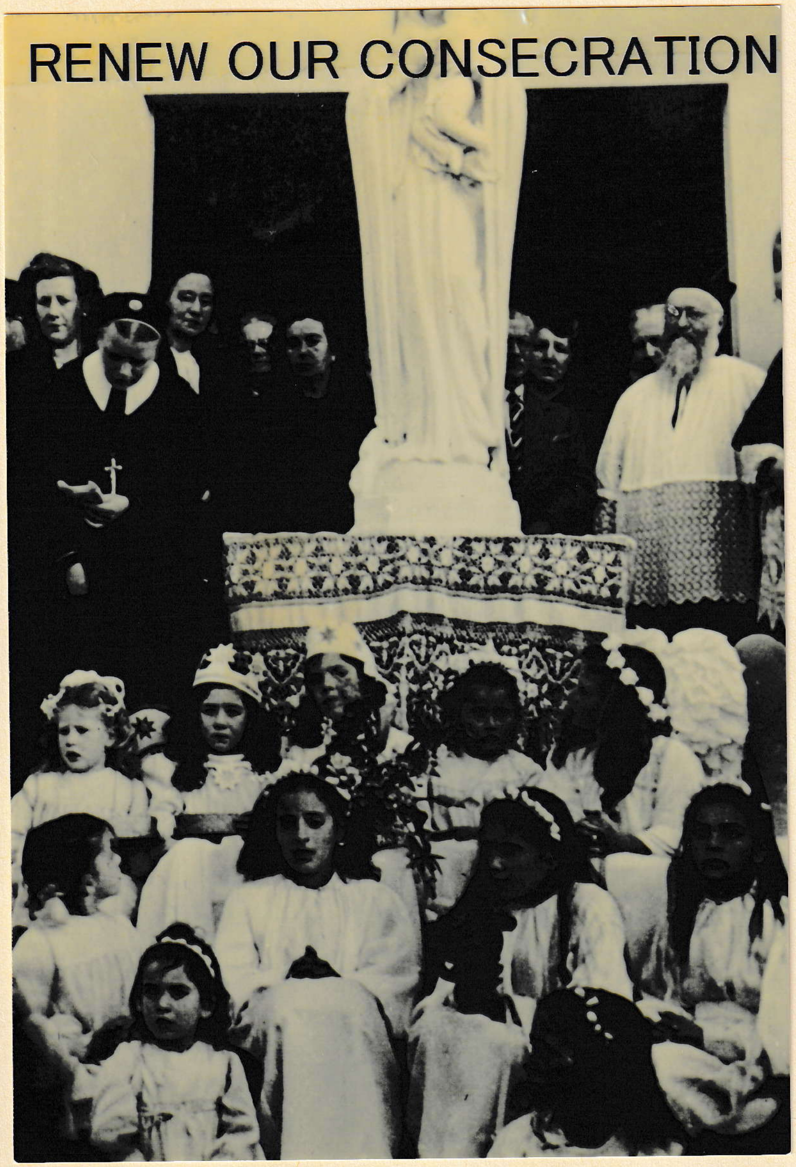
OATH AFTER GIVING TESTIMONY

I, JEROME E. KROLL, swear that I have told the whole truth and nothing but the truth with the testimony I have just given the Church before the Reverend Tribunal for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and I hereby affix my signature upon conclusion thereof:

Jer E. Kroll
signature

This the 22 day of November, 1994
The Metropolitan Tribunal
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Perry
Presiding Judge


RENEW OUR CONSECRATION

Father Joseph Kentenich
extreme upper right
comes to Milwaukee, Wi.
From South America June 21, 1952 at age 66.

An Old Priest Arrives in Exile
In Milwaukee, WI. (1952)

On June 21, 1952 an elderly priest (age 67) dressed in a black garb which had a tight fitting cape walked the ramp slowly down into Milwaukee's Mitchell field airport coming from Santiago, Chile. Here he was in an unfamiliar city far from the beautiful hilly and green wood forest of Schoenstatt in Vallendar, West Germany.

He was here in Milwaukee because he was given the worst expiatory penalty from the Vatican for abusing his office as General Spiritual Director to the Schoenstatt Sisters. He was exile (a prohibition from living in Germany and Europe in perpetuity).

He noticed people staring at him probably because of the long white untrimmed beard. One could almost hear a couple saying is he a Santa Claus, coming to Milwaukee in the wrong season. He always wanted to be a Santa Claus giving of himself to people. But he lived in that dream world of being directed or hearing some higher voice in himself which he called "Divine Providence".

After his long active life in founding communities called the Schoenstatt Movement and spending three and one-half years in Dachau and traveling in South America. This place didn't seem exciting and there was no one waiting for him. Now he had to find some change to make a telephone call to be picked up. After all he never drove so he couldn't rent a car. He found the telephone number of the Pallottine Mother house on 54th and Bluemould Road.

The phone rang in the outside east corridor of the Pallottine Mother house. Someone pick up the phone after they stumbled from the priest recreational room over a beer bottle that was on the floor.

The old priest asked if someone from the house could pick him up from the airport and that he would be waiting in front of the baggage pickup area. He had only one old leather bag that carry his socks and underwear and a few other belongings. Not much to show for forty years of being a priest. Now that he was in Milwaukee would he lose the German Government pension that was provided to ministers in Germany. After one hour he finally was picked up by a young man who said his name was Brother Frank. Brother Frank first remarks were: "I will need to trim your beard". Brother Frank gave everyone a haircut at the Mother house. When Father Kentenich finally arrived at the Mother house he looked at the old building and the couple of acres of ground. He thought: "Certainly not a resort and this is my retirement home for life. Did I do the right thing in refusing to give up the Directorship to the Sisters?"

Father Kentenich Arrives At
The Pallottine Fathers
Mother House

When Father Kentenich was escorted by Brother Frank he had to take a moment to rest before going up the stairs in the north side of the Mother house. An older woman Elizabeth the house keeper was just coming out of her room which was by the north entrance of the staircase.

Than Brother Frank turned right and walked with Father Kentenich down the long corridor with red and black tiles to the rector's office which was next to the House Chapel. When Father Hass saw Father Kentenich he stated: "I bet your very tired from the long trip from South America". Father Kentenich replied "He was tired from such a long trip". Father Haas said: "You know you are welcome here I remember your talks in Schoenstatt when I was a student studying for the priesthood in Germany. I made a room on the second floor on the south side of the house ready for you it is next to Brother Adolf room. Brother Adolf is our sacristy keeper and places flowers on the altar from the funeral services we conduct.

Don't pay attention to his habit of washing his own clothes and hanging them outside his room on a wash line that he strings from one door knob to the room across the hall. Anyway the priest library which has a inner window that opens to the inside of the church is near your sleeping room. A lot of books for you to read. These books might help you learn English."

Before I show you to your room we must call the Archbishop's office because under the canon (1337:2) he had to give his consent to live here under expiatory penalties of exile and we have to let him know you are compiling to the Vatican expulsion orders. Than Father Haas called Brother Frank and told him to lead Father Kentenich to his sleeping room. Father Kentenich walked with Brother Frank east down the first floor corridor than turn south past the kitchen, dinner area, priest recreation room. Father noticed the telephone hanging on the outside wall of the priest recreation room. He thought maybe I can use this phone to call the Schoenstatt Sisters who lived in Madison, Wisconsin.

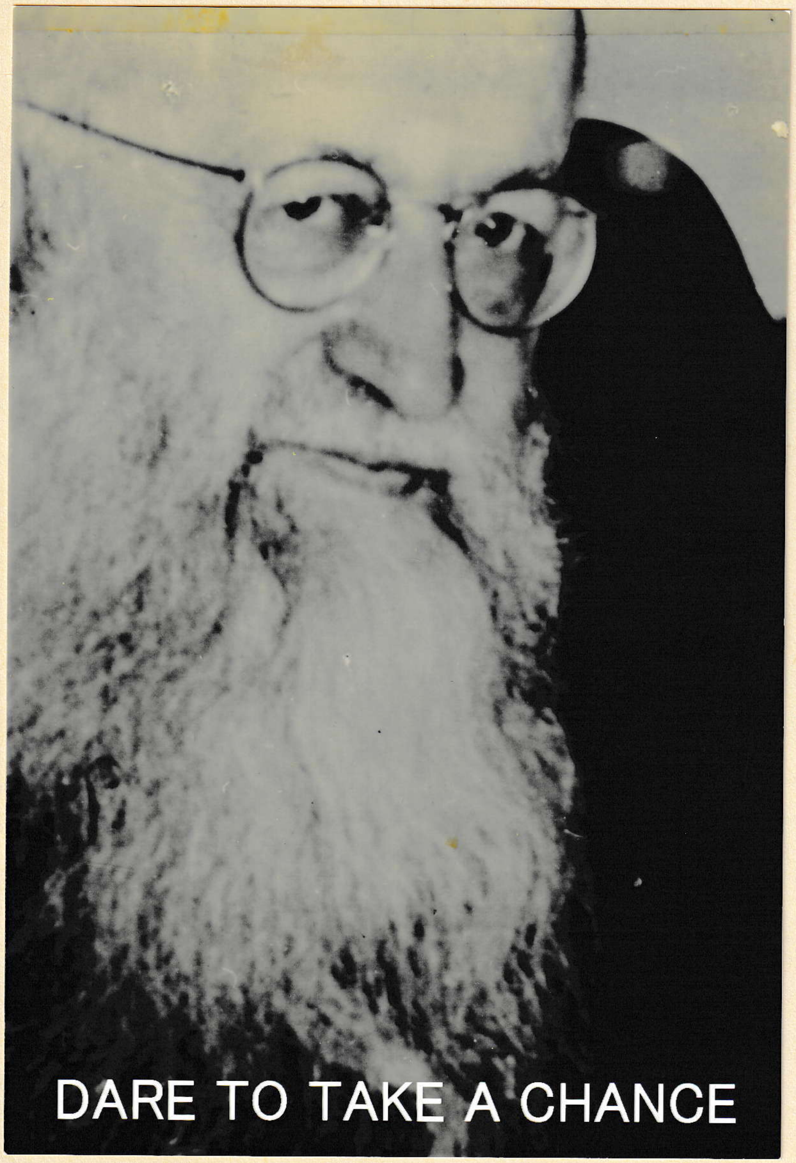
Brother Frank said: "This way up the stairs. The stairs creek with every step. There was no way to walk up or down these stairs without being heard. When they got to the top of the stairs on the second floor they opened the door and walked down the south corridor. Father Kentenich noticed the shower room which had darken glass but you could see that some one was using the shower. Brother Frank said: "We only have one shower but lots of hot water. Most priest take showers on Saturday".

Walking down to near the end of the hall. Brother Frank opened the door which faced the south side of the house and was one room away from the priest library. Father Kentenich stared at the room it had a small twin bed on the east side of the wall, a metal closet near the window, a sink on the west side of the room. He said to Brother Frank, " I love the sun and I can see the cemetery across Blue mound Road". As Brother Frank was leaving the room he said: "I'll go back down to the car and get your suitcase and noon-time prayers will be in 20 minutes". Father Kentenich though, "noon times prayers, I haven't said them in years, I was always too busy".

Brother Frank bought the black suitcase up the stairs and placed it beside Father Kentenich door and left. When the Angelus bell rang which is situated on top of the house chapel and pulled by a rope that came through the chapel ceiling. He immediate went down to the chapel.

There were about twelve priests and a couple of brothers kneeling in the chapel. Father Kentenich was given a grey little booklet which had the community prayers printed in the booklet. The altar in the front of the chapel had a huge life size cross with Jesus nailed to it. On each side of the altar was a statue of Mary and St. John looking very distressed. After the prayers the priest walked in single file east down the corridor toward the dining area. Father Haas who sat at the head table seated Father Kentenich also at the head table. To the table on the east side of the room sat Father Brell, Father Lee, Father Matel, Father Toby, Father Somer and on the table on the west side of the room sat Brother Frank, Brother Adolf, and Brother William.

Martha who was separated from her husband was the cook. After the blessing of the food, 10 minutes of Spiritual reading occurred. During these 10 minutes the food was brought out in white dishes. The main meat was served at noon. Each priest has a white cloth napkin which was rolled up and placed in a ring. Each ring was a little bit difference. Father Mark who also sat at the front table passed a bowl of mash potatoes to Father Kentenich and ask Kentenich if he also wanted the gravy bowl. Father Kentenich said "yes". Father Haas said I guess we will have to find you a room so that you can do your writing , and use as your office.


DARE TO TAKE A CHANCE

Father Joseph Kentenich as a
Pallottine Father

Father Kentenich Settled
into his new office

Father Haas the Rector said to Brother Frank: “Prepare the classroom on the second floor the room furthers to the west for Father Kentenich’s office”. Brother Frank had to go up into the attic on the third floor on the south side of the house.

There stored in the corner was a maple wooden desk he had to call on Mr. Gilbert to help him bring the desk down to the second floor classroom. Brother Frank said: “This heavy desk is going to hurt my back as he was moving it down the north stairs. It just not worth it. I need help. I do to much work for these priests.” Later Brother Frank went to the Vocational Director Father Toby and stated : “We need more vocations to the Brotherhood.” “I can’t do all this hard work by myself.”

The classroom already had a couch in it and several chairs. The classroom now Father Kentenich’s office had a very large picture window facing north which over looked the several acres. Father Kentenich thought to himself. “Nice view I can see the elm trees and who is coming up the road to the Mother house”. Father Haas had a telephone installed in Father Kentenich’s office.

Father Kentenich decided to call Sister Winifrede the Schoenstatt Mother Superior in Madison. Father Kentenich said: “Sister I got an office on the second floor and I noticed that it has an emergency exit stairs going down to the ground. You could use this to get to my office. Can you meet me tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. in my office I need to talk to you”. Sister Winifrede: “I ‘ll drive my green Buick from Madison tomorrow and meet you in your office.” The next day at 10:00 a.m. Sister Winifrede told Sister Ellen (a young woman) and the cook and house keeper. "I'm going to meet Father Kentenich our founder at 2:00 P.M. I will be home probably late." Sister Winifrede in her lay clothes wearing a small hat with a veil and a long grey dress walked down the gravel road north to Cottage Grove Road. Than she turned west to walk to the old farm house garage. As she opened the garage doors an acorn fell down next to her. The old Buick started and she was on her way to Milwaukee. She thought nice to be a superior. I get to get away from the house and all the work. Now I get to see my founder, my spiritual Father.

When she reached the Pallottine house she decided to park several blocks away and walk. She didn't want the Fathers to see her meeting Father Kentenich. When she reach the black metal stairs going up to the second floor office she hoped that Father Kentenich would open the door, and soon as she knock on it. She knocked on the outside of the green door twice and Father Kentenich rushed to open the door. Father Kentenich said: "I'm sure glad to see you. Your looking good. Do you think you can find a typewriter and be my secretary. I need to correspond with so many people". Sister Winifrede said: "The room is big and has a nice green and gold couch. I'll find a typewriter and bring it over as soon as I can. Sure I'll will be your secretary." Father Kentenich said: "Fine! Fine!

Sister Winifrede drove to "Typewriter Inc" on Vliet St. and 27 St. The bell on the door rang as sister opened and entered. The older man in a blue suit said: "How can I help you". Sister: "I need a second hand typewriter." Salesman: "I have several traded-in stock." Sister: "I'm a Schoenstatt Sister of Mary can I have a discount." Salesman: "For you sister I'll give you 25 % off. I go to church at St. Joseph." Sister gets her blue purse out and count the money. Sister said: "I have sixty-five dollars." Salesman: "It's yours." So Sister Winifrede drives back to Holy Cross and this time she drives up to the back of the house. Because she has a weak back, she looks for someone to take the typewriter up to Father Kentenich office.

Father Toby comes out of the north entrance. Sister say to him: “Would you take this typewriter to Father Kentenich”. Father Toby looks at her with some surprise but says: “Sure I’ll take the typewriter to him”.

SISTER WINIFREDE–SUPERIOR 1968

Sister Mary Winifrede the Schoenstatt Sister Superior in Madison loved Father Kentenich the Founder very much. She was Father Kentenich personal secretary from 1952 to about 1958. She recognize Jerome's attachment to Father Kentenich and called the relationship "very special".

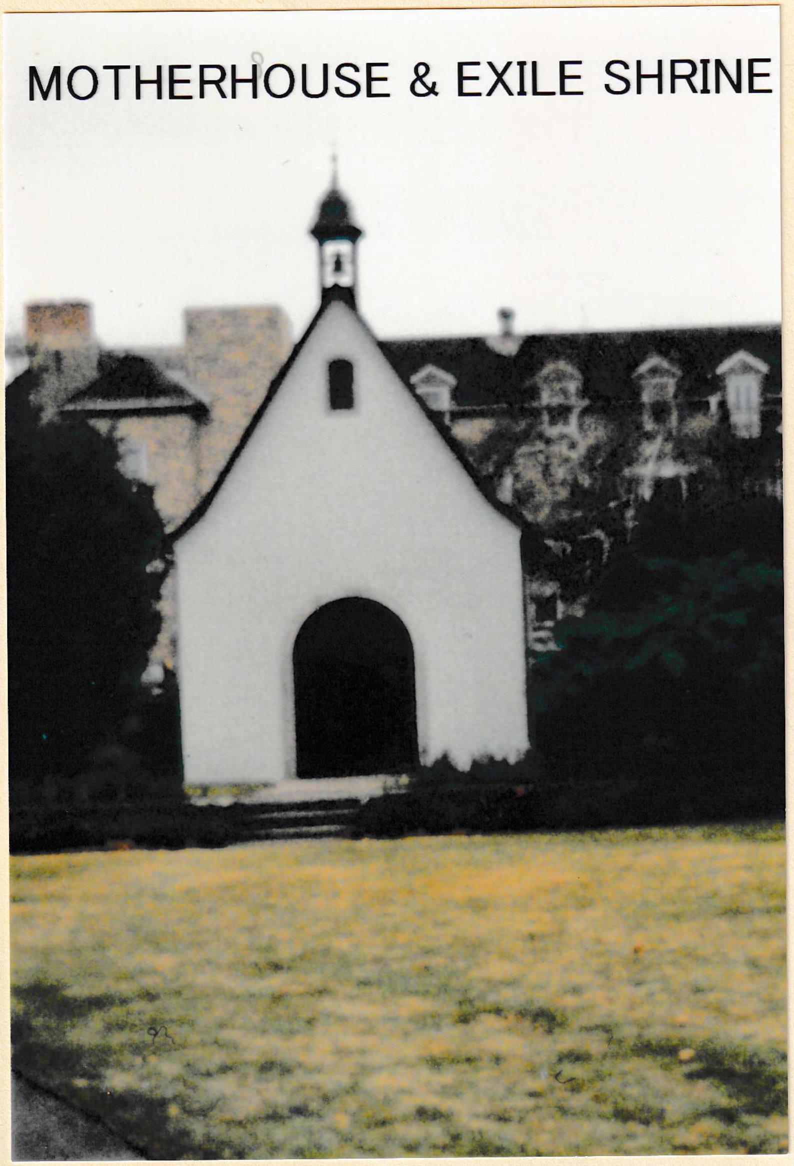
Father Kentenich Gives Retreat
To Pallottine Fathers in 1952

Father Joseph Haas rector at the Pallottine Mother house sends out a memo to all the priests and brothers that there will be a five day retreat and has requested Father Kentenich to give it.

Father Lee who was a chaplain at the Milwaukee Institutions said to Father Somers: "Don't tell me this retreat will be in Latin? Father Kentenich doesn't know English that well." Father Somers said: "Well just go to the institution more often and stay longer".

Father Kentenich gave the retreat in the priest recreational room. He spoke for over a hour each time without notes twice a day. Some priests didn't know what was going on. Suddenly a motion was made to vote if the Schoenstatt Movement should be adopted as the external or outer lay group for the priest activity. Everybody hands went up but like Father Lee they really didn't know what they were voting for.

Father Haas and his buddy Father Brell were delighted. They got the vote they needed to foster the Schoenstatt Movement activity here at Holy Cross Church. Father Haas said to Father Brell: "Now we can get the Schoenstatt Shrine built and pay for it out of the parish money. We can take special collections for this project and the other priests can't object. Father Haas called Father Kentenich to his office to tell him the good news. Father Kentenich smiled and said: "Good! Good!"



MOTHERHOUSE & EXILE SHRINE

Pallottine Mother house 54 Th St. and Bluemound, Milwaukee, Wi. Windows on the third floor is a dormitory. Windows on the second floor are classrooms. To extreme right on second floor is Father Kentenich old office before his office was moved to the first floor. Exile shrine is a Schoenstatt Shrine.

Building of the Schoenstatt Shrine at Holy Cross - Milwaukee

(1954)

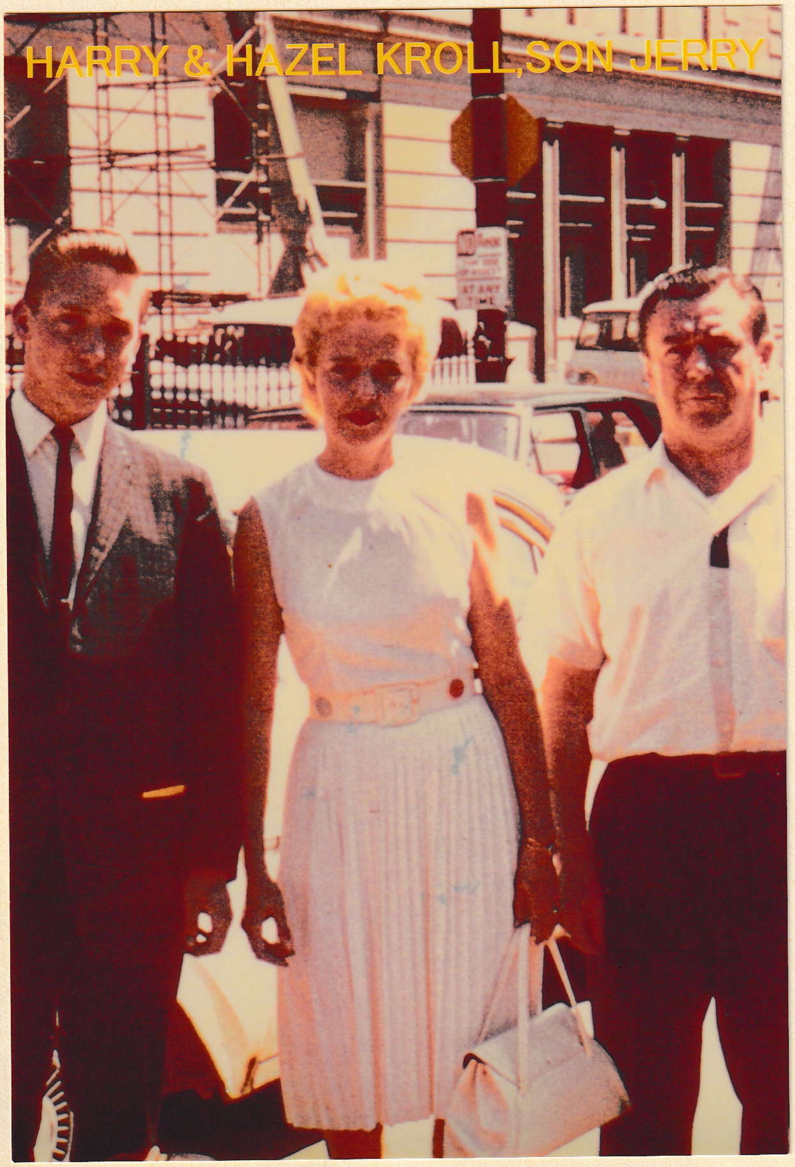
During 1953 and 1954 Father Haas had special envelopes placed in the pews during the Sunday masses at Holy Cross. Usually the collections totaled about $600.00. So it took months to collect enough money to buy the concrete blocks and concrete bags needed to build a shrine.

Father August Soemer was placed in charge of building the shrine. He was good at reading blueprints and could calculate the number of blocks needed. At this time the Vocational Director got two high school students to join the Pallottine Brother Candidate School. One student name was Richard and the other LeRoy. Brother Frank was extremely happy about this because he didn't want to carry those heavy concrete blocks by himself Father Somer had back problems so he couldn't lift a lot of weight.

During June, 1954 the concrete floor was laid. This was not to hard because after Father Somer with the help of Brother Frank laid the wooden frame in the proper shape. Several concrete trucks were called in and the concrete was poured.

Than trucks came with the concrete blocks. Brother Frank had the two students carry the blocks for Father Somer to line up and place the concrete fill between the blocks. Brother Frank said: "Father Somer why do we need another chapel we already have a church and chapel." Father Somer did not answer. Climbing the steep roof was hard but still the shrine isn't very wide it was manageable.

To heat the shrine which was about 400 feet from the Main Building a deep trench had to be dug to run a water pipe between the boiler in the main building and the shrine. Also the water sprinkler system was placed into the ground around the shrine. The sprinkler knob which turned on the water was in a big concrete box near the main building. Brother Frank was really mad about the whole project because he had to do so much work. Brother Frank said to Father Haas: "That the last project I'm doing I need a beer. Give me the key to the cellar." Father Haas said: "You know where the key is."


HARRY & HAZEL KROLL,SON JERRY

Hazel E. Kroll (Birth 2-01-1922 Death 10-08-1980)
Harry J. Kroll (Birth 1-26-1919 Death 1979)

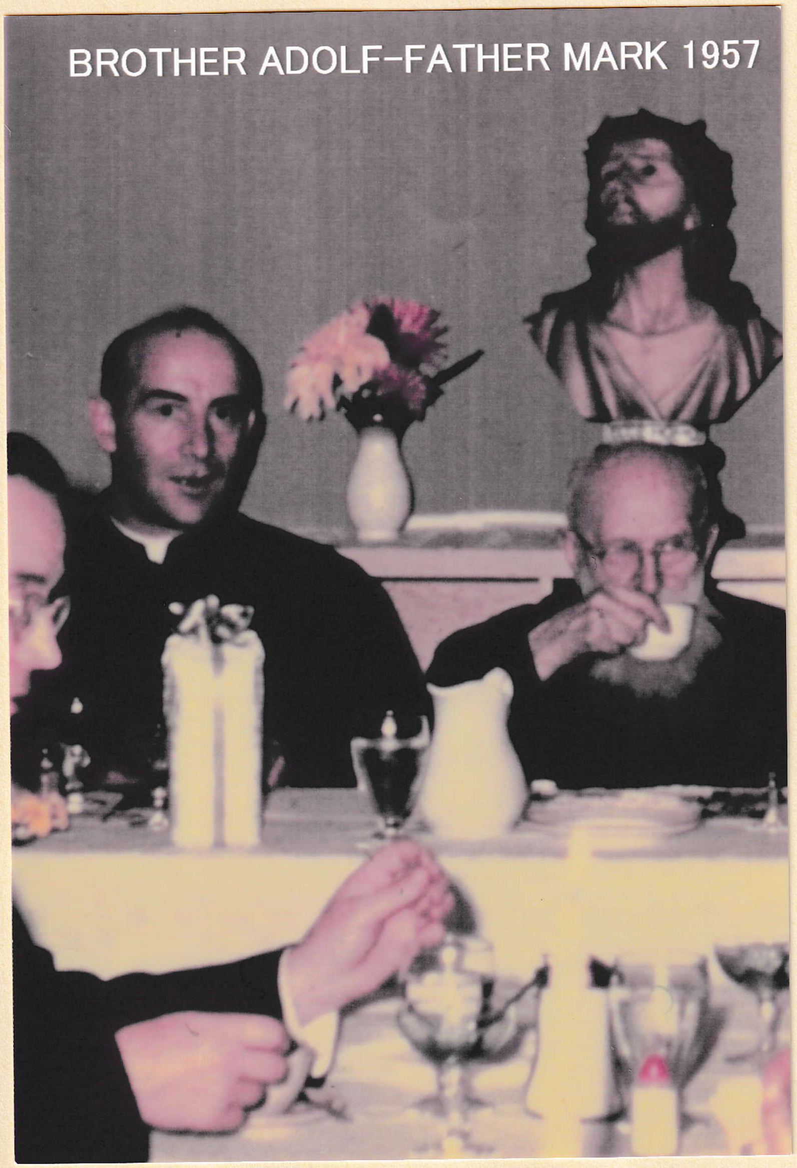
Father Joseph Kentenich 70th Birthday (1955)

During 1955 Sister Winifrede dressed in lay clothes began staying in Milwaukee three days a week to type for Father Kentenich.

Spending so much time together they became closer. Father Kentenich said: “Sister I believe you would look nice in blue dress and nicer hat”. Sister Winifrede: “Would you go with me to pick out the dress?” Father Kentenich : “I know you have very little money and I got some couple hundred dollars saved from money people send me in the mail”. Sister Winifrede: “There is a shop on North 27 St. We could go there and you could pick out what you want.”

As Sister Winifrede was placing the carbon paper between the seven or eight light weight paper, Father Kentenich came near Sister Winifrede and said let me help you place the carbon paper between the sheets. This closeness between Father Kentenich delighted Sister Winifrede and thus her loyalty toward him grew day by day. Near Father Kentenich Birthday Sister Winifrede decided to give him a small party. She know a couple ladies that wanted to see him.

So Sister Winifrede invited them to bring a birthday cake and on Father Kentenich 70th birthday. Sister Winifrede and the couple ladies made sure he had an enjoyable time.



Brother Adolf (center) anniversary. He was in the Cameroon missions in Africa for many years. In Milwaukee he was a sacristan. He used to pull the funeral flowers into new arrangements for the altar. His room was across from Father Kentenich. He hung his wash up in his room. Father Mark was province Superior when Vincent Pallotti was canonized. He brought back from Rome relics of St. Jerome and St. Emily which Jerome gave to his parents.

Sister General Superior writes to Father Kentenich about apartment.

Sister Hinabird writes (1955): “Dear Father Kentenich we have finished building the training center on Mount Schoenstatt. Because of our love for you we have build you a small apartment in the center. This will give you hope that someday you will return to Schoenstatt, Germany and you will know you have a home.~~”~~

One of the sisters have made the bed covering herself and it has blue and white flowers sewed to the edges of the pillow cases. From your bedroom you have a nice view of the apple orchard. We sisters hope you return soon. We our depositing your state pension check into a special account so that you can draw on it when ever you need the money.”

Father Kentenich received the letter five days later which had the pseudo name D.W. Day P.O. Box xxxx West Allis, Wi. He was thinking: “A new apartment, hope I live long enough to enjoy it”.

Jerome Enters Pallottine Brother Candidate School

Jerome says: “Mother the list says that I must have my initials sewed into each piece of clothing”. Mother: “We will go over to Sears on Fond Du Lac Ave and have them order your initials “JK” on labels to be sewed into you clothes”. A week later Mother and Jerome were sewing the labels into shirts, tee shirts, underwear, and socks.

Right after labor day during the first week of September, 1956 mom and dad drove Jerome to 5454 West Bluemound Road which is only about six miles from home. Father paid Father Matel the Spiritual Director $300.00 for the semester. Jerome was told to go to the third floor on the east side of the house. Brother Frank assigned Jerome a locker and a bed. The locker wasn’t very big. All the socks and under wear had to be stacked on the one shelve in the locker.

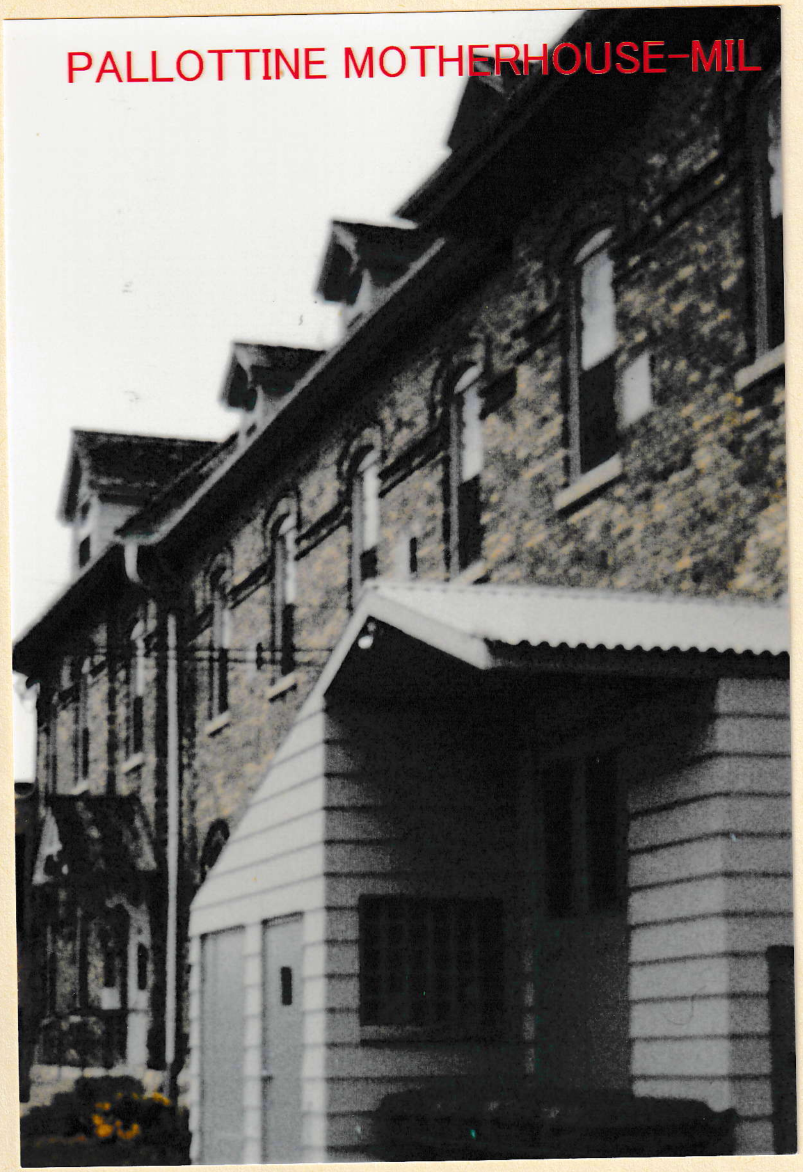
There were seven beds in the dormitory, four beds on the east side of the dormitory and three beds on the west side. Next to the bed was a night stand. The blankets were green coming from army surplus. The first thing Jerome had to learn was how to made a military bed with the folded corners.

Jerome was introduce to Richard, Dennis, Dave who were older than Jerome. During the first night the older students stuffed Brother Frank bathroom which was on the south side of the third floor with toilet papers. Brother Frank was very angry and came into the dorm said: “Which one of you did this to my toilet?” Nobody answered. Brother Frank said: “Don’t do it again”.

The first night went all right and at 6:00 P.M. the angelus bell rang over the house chapel. It was time to get up. Walked to the bathroom which had three sinks. Washed our faces and hands, brushed our teeth and combed our hair. Walked down the three flights of stairs and knelt in the first pew in the house chapel. Than the morning prayers began. Jerome was given a grey book which contained the prayers. After prayers the priest would go over to the dressing area and begin putting on their mass vestments. This was all new to Jerome and he was afraid to serve because he didn't know Latin or the responses. Jerome had never before serve as an altar boy. He was good at ringing the little bell when the host was raised by the priest.

There were five masses said at one time. One mass was said in the house chapel, one said in the main church, two masses said at the side chapel of Mary and St. Joseph and one mass in the Schoenstatt Shrine. After mass we went back up to the dormitory to made our beds.

At breakfast Jerome and the students had cereal and rolls. Sometimes eggs and a hot cereal were served. Priest ate as they finished mass. After breakfast Jerome was assign to clean up the tables and wash and dry the dishes. The dirty dishes were piled up on a stainless steel platform and were clean off with a brush and scraps on the plates were brushed into the garbage disposal. There was a button under the table which you pushed which began the garbage disposal. The dirty dishes were piled into wooded boxes which were pushed through the dish washes. The water was very hot and steam poured out of the holes. The dishes had to be dried. Than placed back into cabinets which were hung from the back or north wall of the dish washing room.



Pallottine Mother house at 5454 West Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Lower level first double doors enters the kitchen, next two doors lead to the basement. Rear entrance opened to Father Kentenich new office which had a small bedroom and bathroom attached. Could go from office directly into bedroom from office. Second floor priest sleeping quarters. Third floor was a dormitory for Brother Candidate School.